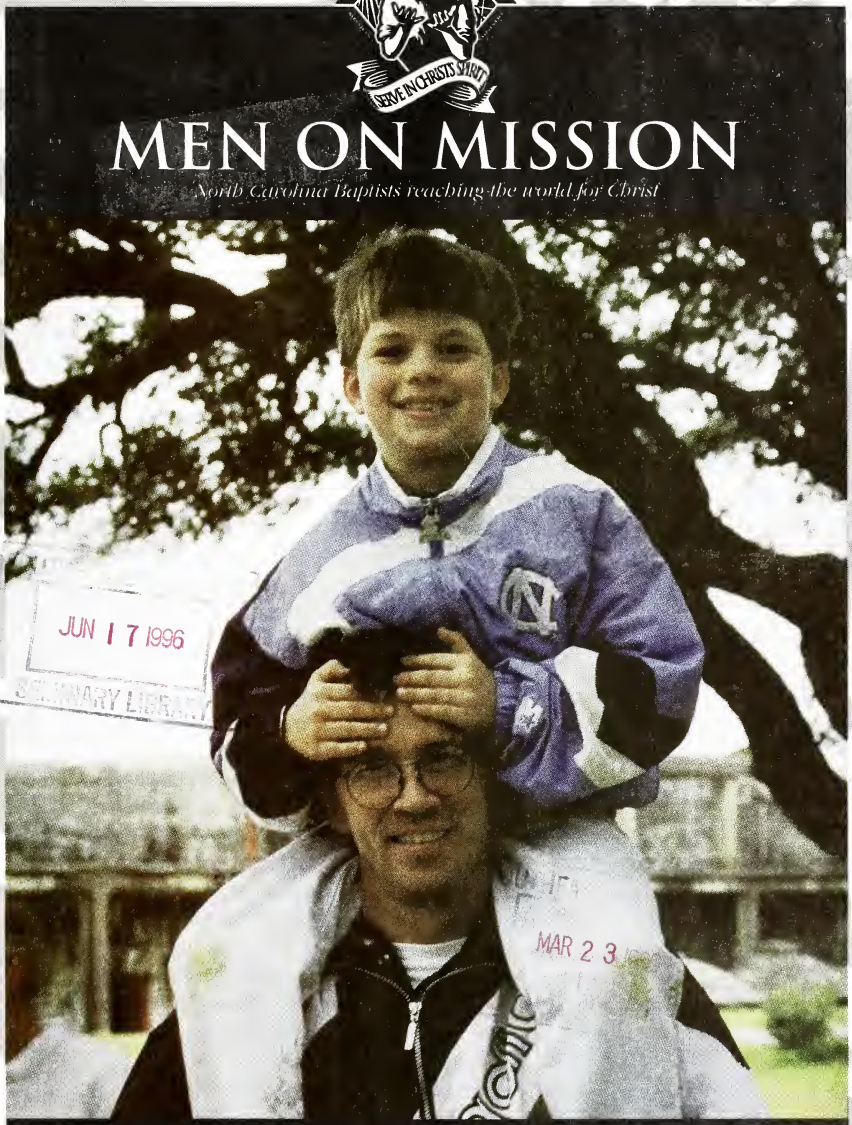
Summer 1996

MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptists reaching the world for Christ



FATHER-SON RETREAT HELD AT CASWELL
Summer 1996

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover

Fathers and their sons enjoyed the first ever Father/Son Retreat held at Caswell this spring. More retreats are planned for Caraway and Caswell.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lisa Chilson, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Sue Smith, Kecia Morgan, Sandy Smith, Frank Starnes, Ed and Ann Kanoy

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Keeping First Things First

We can learn a lot from children. I have three children. My youngest is Taylor. He's two years old. A couple of weeks ago at bedtime he was standing next to the couch where I was sitting. He was busy coloring away at a picture. I noticed what time it was and I said to him, "Taylor, it's about time to get you to bed." Taylor just cut his eyes over at me and went back to work. Then he picked up his paper and crayon and walked over to the other side of me and kept working. A minute or two later I said to him again, "Taylor, we need to get you to bed." Taylor just cut his eyes at me and said in a very serious voice "I not hearing you."

What's the most important thing in your life?

Too often, I'm just like my two-year-old. I get so caught up in my work, watching a football game, reading, or whatever else I'm doing that I don't hear my wife or my kids when they are talking to me. I'm guilty of letting less important things take priority over the most important things. Keeping first things first—it's a battle for almost everyone.

John Casey is the field goal kicker for the Carolina Panthers. John has become known as one of the best field goal kickers in the NFL. The Panthers won several games this past season with a last second field goal by John Casey. Can you imagine the pressure of knowing that your kick could win or lose the game? Can you imagine the pressure of knowing that your job may very well rest on kicking a field goal? I heard John interviewed recently, and the interviewer asked John how he handles the pressure in these situations. John responded, "Before every game I pray that God will help me to do my best and to honor Christ, after that I try not to worry about it." John went on to say that there are more important things in life than football. I think that John Casey has his priorities straight and is keeping first things first.

Well, what's the most important thing in your life? Jesus said the most important thing is "to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and to love your neighbor as you love yourself." Missions that really accomplishes something and that really lasts is always the result of loving God and then loving your neighbor. That's the most important thing!

Richard Brunson

Lost . . . And Found

MAURICE COOK, NCBM PRESIDENT

Several months ago, Nancy and I were in Washington, DC, visiting our son, Stephen. While we were there, and with his encouragement, we went to the very interesting Air and Space Museum. As we made our way through several of the many marvelous exhibits in the museum, we suddenly were interrupted by a voice over the public address system, "This is a lost child announcement. A child has been found. The child is with the security guards at the Independence Avenue exit. Parents may claim the child there."

The young child put on a brave front trying not to cry. But there was obvious fear and fright in her beautiful young face. I hope the drama had a happy ending and my guess is that it did. One gets the feeling that the "lost child" announcement is a common occurrence at the museum judging from the calm manner of the security personnel and the unconcerned facial expressions of everyone around—except on the face of the young girl. For the moment she was lost. That is what is important!

The "lost child" announcement continues to replay in my mind as an illustration of our relationship with our Father. Each of us has been a lost child at one time in our lives. We put on the macho appearance that we are in control, but deep inside there is fear and fright of our ability to go it alone. We hear our Heavenly Father's "lost child" announcement voiced by His angel: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10–11). And from John the beloved disciple, "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17). And: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). Salvation means freedom. We really are on Independence Avenue!!

Each of us have been a lost child at one time in our lives.

Jesus fulfilled His mission with a loving zeal for lost souls. His parables (Luke 15) of the lost sheep and the lost coin describe the intensity we should have in seeking the lost to point them to the Savior. Jesus concludes the sequence of parables with a masterpiece, The Prodigal Son, perhaps the best loved of all His parables. Remember the father's joy upon the son's return and his words to those within his hearing? "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found" (Luke 15:24).

I must admit that I do not have the concern for lost souls that I should. Perhaps the Lord is speaking to me through the "lost child" announcement to prick my conscience in this all important matter. I share this admission with you in the event you are experiencing a similar lack of concern. May the "lost child" announcement speak to you also.

The mission of North Carolina Baptist Men is far-reaching as we serve both Christians and non-Christians. And we must continue to respond to human needs regardless of the religious affiliations—if there are any—of those who are hurting! As individuals and as an organization, though, we must remember that our primary mission is to bring the Good News to lost people. The call to us is to be obedient. Someone has wisely written, "One must plow the fields before there is a harvest." Our task is to plow the fields. The Lord will take care of the harvest.

Our attitude toward the lost should not be one of pride or condescension. Rather, it should be: "There but for the grace of God go I." It is only because of God's marvelous and wondrous grace that we are saved. That beautiful hymn from the pen of John Newton says it all: "Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me, I once was lost but now am found..."

36 ways Your Family Can Make A Difference Through Mission Projects

Family Missions

Doing missions with those you love is an exciting concept.; and when your family includes children, it provides a model of Christian love and compassion that they will never forget.

Celebrate Family Missions Month

Churches are encouraged to set aside a particular time of the year to emphasize families working together in mission and ministry projects. A suggested month is August of each year, a time when families begin planning for a new church and school year.

N.C. Baptist Men, N.C. WMU, the Christian Life Council, and the State Evangelism Division have published a booklet that is filled with ideas of mission projects that can be done by families in your church. Also included in the booklet are suggestions for ways families can pray about needs in their community and decide as a family, projects in which to be involved.

Here are examples of some of the suggested family mission projects found in this booklet:

Idea Number 12 — Bus Drivers. Put together some type of care package for the bus drivers of your school. Let them know how much you appreciate the important, but many times thankless, job they do. Also, let them know you will be praying for them as they drive the bus each day.

Idea Number 16 - Adopt-a-Grandparent. Go to an area nursing home and ask the director what resident would be a good one for your family to adopt. Consider choosing a resident who rarely has visitors. Spend time with this person monthly and remember him/her on special days such as birthdays, Christmas, etc. Offer to take him/her to church on a regular basis for special services.

Clip and Return

36 Family Mission Project Ideas Booklet Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Church/Association _____

Please send me _____ copies of the Family Mission Project Ideas booklet at a cost of 25¢ per booklet.

❑ I have included my check. ❑ Please bill me at the address above.

Make checks payable to: N.C. Baptist Men. Mail order form and check to: N.C. Baptist Men, Baptist State Convention, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107.

Mission Statement

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

N.C. Baptist Men Offers Ways To Minister 'Back To Ministers'

In the near future, N.C. Baptist Men's office is going to offer a brochure that will help congregations minister to their church staff and families in tangible ways. The brochure will be called "Ministering To The Minister" and available to anyone who would like to help their church minister to their ministers. Brotherhood directors will be encouraged to take the lead and make this a churchwide project. Pastors and their families are human and have the same hopes, dreams and feelings that laypeople and their families have. Many churches forget this and ministers end up feeling isolated and lonely. They need to be affirmed and encouraged for all they do. Some ways that churches have ministered to ministers are by giving the couple a gift certificate to a local restaurant and offering to baby-sit for the evening, having a celebration dinner/fellowship to say thank you for all they do each day, sending a note once a week to say thank you for the love and sacrifice they show to the church, and the list goes on. Call Lisa Chilson at (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, Ext. 333 for a brochure or check the appropriate item on the back page. Be in prayer for your pastoral staff today, and thank God they are there for you.

Equipping Today's Church Is A Valuable Training Opportunity

Wouldn't it be great if you could load all your church leaders in the van and take them to receive training at one time? You can! Equipping Today's Church is an interdepartmental training session offered by the Baptist State Convention for just such a purpose. Training will be offered by Sunday School, Church Music, Discipleship Training, Woman's Missionary Union, North Carolina Baptist Men, and the Office of Minister Support. Participants may choose which conferences they would like to attend. All conferences are geared especially to leaders in the local church. Two conferences will be offered: Ridgecrest Conference Center on September 6–7 and Caswell Conference Center on October 4–5.

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page or call (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, Ext. 202.

Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference Set August 9–10

The Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference to equip men and women to lead other men, young men and boys in church and associational mission study and projects will be held at the Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro, August 9–10. It begins with registration and dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and concludes on Saturday with lunch.

The conference will feature training sessions for basic and advanced Royal Ambassador (grades 1–6) counselors. Training sessions for leaders in the Challengers (grades 7–12) and church Baptist Men/Brotherhood directors will also be offered.

Cost is only $35 per person (double occupancy and three meals). Registration deadline is July 8.

For more information or to register, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Explore The Rewards Of Volunteering

Being a volunteer does take time. It sometimes requires reaching beyond established comfort zones and taking risks, but the rewards are great. Imagine experiencing these rewards: the smile of an elderly woman whose home you helped winterize; the excitement of a child opening gifts that you brought because their father or mother was in prison; the joy of knowing that someone who struggled to find hope found it when you shared very simply how Christ changed your life. The list could go on and on. Being available and giving a helping hand in the name of Christ is what being a Christian is all about. You receive joy in knowing that you are reaching out and sharing the blessings you have been given. We all have the blessings of our talents, our vocational skills, our time. All it takes is a willing heart.

North Carolina Baptist Men receive requests for help from individuals and churches often, and we need people to fill those requests. We can find a place for you. The time is NOW!!! Begin the process of exploring these options by doing one of two things: fill out and clip the form below and send it back to N.C. Baptist Men as soon as possible; or, simply pick up the phone, dial (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102, Ext. 333 and talk to Lisa Chilson about being a part of living out the "call of Christ."

Opportunities exist locally, nationally and internationally. So....can you? will you?... follow the call of Christ, reach out, and bring God's love to someone who needs Him? Explore the rewards—for you and the lives you touch!

VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM

Name _____ **Church** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Association _____

Phone: **(h)** _____ **(w)** _____

Fax/EMail: _____

Skill and Interests: ***(Circle the ones that apply)***

Examples: nursing, nutrition, computers, evangelism, livestock care, sports/leisure, plumbing, engineering, construction, carpentry, basic gardening, dentistry, brick/block masonry, water/sanitation, office skills, education, counseling, cooking/sewing, farming, children/youth, business, electrician, medical, aviation, music, prayer, preaching

Other Skills _____

_____

Clip and send to NCBM, P.O. Box 1107 Cary, NC 27512–1107 Attention: Lisa Chilson

Space Available At Caswell During World Missions Week

World Missions Week is a week of missions-centered activities for the whole family. Space is still available for those who act quickly. Youth space in the barracks for groups of any size is available on a first-come, first-serve basis at only $132.50 per person. World Missions Week is held July 15-19 at the N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell). Please call the Assembly's reservation office immediately for details (910) 278-9501.

Program leaders include: Taylor Field, Graffiti Ministries, New York, N.Y.; Kyle Matthews, storyteller and concert artist, Nashville, Tenn.; Jon Cawley, pastor, Flat Rock Church, Mt. Airy; along with Home and Foreign missionaries.

Deacon/Spouse Leadership Conferences

Theme: Deacons Leading The Church Into The Twenty-first Century

CARAWAY, OCTOBER 11–12, 1996

Leader: Dr. Reginald McNeal, Director of Leadership Development of the S.C. Baptist Convention

CASWELL, OCTOBER 18–19, 1996

Leader: Dr. Herbert Pedersen, Missions Division Director of General Baptist Convention of Texas

For more information check the appropriate item on the back page.

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN
SERVE IN CHRISTS SPIRIT
ROYAL AMBASSADORS
RA
WHERE MISSIONS AND MINISTRY MEET
Challenger
I CORINTHIANS 15-58

N.C. Baptist Building Telephone Directory/(800) 395-5102 or (919) 467-5100

Callers to the Baptist Building in Cary can now dial directly to individual departments and personnel as well as leave a recorded voice mail message in the event the individual is away from his or her desk. The system may be activated from any touch-tone phone 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week.

Individuals calling from a rotary telephone simply stay on the line for operator assistance between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Callers on rotary phones after hours need to call again during regular office hours.

If you are calling from a touch tone telephone and know the extension number of the person you are calling, you enter that number on your touch tone phone anytime during the operator's recorded message. If you do not know the extension number, press STAR (*) and the first three letters of the person's last name for directory assistance or press 0 for the Baptist Building operator.

If you call the Baptist Building before 8 a.m. and after 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, from a touch tone telephone and know the extension and wish to leave a message, you can dial the extension number anytime during the operator's recorded message and leave your message. You can access directory assistance anytime, day or night, by pressing STAR (*) and following the recorded instructions.

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NEW ADDRESS

Lonnie & Connie Reynolds
Apartado 123
12600 Vall-de-Uxo
Spain

AVIATION MISSIONS

Baptist Men's Aviation Ministry 'Takes Off'

Our notice about the Aviation Ministry in the past issue of "Men on Mission" Magazine received a lot of inquiries from men all over North Carolina.

Aviation conference meetings were held at the Annual Baptist Men's Convention in High Point. Discussions included the possibility of a fly-in and tour of Jungle Aviation and Radio Service (JAARS) in Waxhaw. They work with Wycliff Bible translators and teach jungle flying and airplane maintenance. Notice was also presented about attending a Christian fly-in and gospel sing at Scarlet Field, scheduled for June 1.

It seems that the more we looked, the more flying ministries we found. Many of these were unknown to most of us. Each of these existing ministries welcomed us to come and see how they minister and operate. We plan to check out as many as possible and learn how and where we can plug in, or fill areas where we may be needed.

I flew my pastor to a meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, a couple of years ago. To my surprise, I discovered that he was very interested in planes and very much a praying man. He prayed consistently all during the flight and for every part of the plane while in route. The results of this new ministry may reach farther than we think, praise the Lord!

I have spoken to men involved with Texas Baptist Men's Aviation Ministry called "Amigos Internacionales" in Waco, Texas. They also seem excited to help us get started. We have already learned a lot from them, and it will save us from making a lot of start-up errors.

A mailing list of interested people is being compiled to communicate ministry needs and opportunities quickly. Please send your thoughts and ideas about this new area of ministry!

We are still seeking interested men and women who want to use their interest in aviation to serve our Lord. If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact the North Carolina Baptist Men's office at (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, Ext. 325, or call me at (704) 376–0824 during the day and (704) 664–6422 at night or check the appropriate item on the back page.

The ministry is still in the developmental stages, and the sky is the limit!

Bob Foy
State Aviation Coordinator
2323 The Plaza
Charlotte, N.C. 28507
(704) 376-0824 work;
(704) 664-6422 home

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

Promise Keepers Conference Is Scheduled June 21–22

The North Carolina Promise Keepers Conference is scheduled for June 21–22, 1996, at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Call (800) 888–7595 to register. Promise Keepers is committed to igniting, equipping, and uniting men to keep the seven promises of a promise keeper in and through involvement in the community of their local church. Promise Keepers is also committed to motivate men to influence their world through obedience to the Great Commission (evangelism) and the Great Commandment (love). See you at the conference along with the NCBM Medical-Dental Bus. For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

CONSIDER THIS

Here's something to consider while reflecting on fathers' roles in the family:

What Should Your Child Know By Living With You?

1. ***That you love their mother***
2. ***You teach and honor God***
3. ***You obey the teachings of the Bible***
4. ***That children are a gift from God***
5. ***That it is important to pray***
6. ***That they can experience God's forgiveness and learn how to be forgiving toward others***
7. ***That they can trust God and have an identity with Christ***

Mini-Camp Strengthens Bonds

The Father-Son mini-camp is a chance for fathers to strengthen their relationship with their sons grades 1–6, July 1–3, July 3–5, and August 5–7 at Camp Caraway, Asheboro. It's a great deal of fun for all.

PROMISE KEEPERS AND BAPTIST MEN

Many North Carolina Baptist Men have participated in or will participate in a Promise Keepers conference. The purpose of this flyer is to provide information on Promise Keepers that will be helpful to Baptist Men and pastors who want to learn more about Promise Keepers or participate in a Promise Keepers conference.

■ WHAT IS PROMISE KEEPERS?

A. According to the official definition "Promise Keepers is a Christ-centered ministry dedicated to uniting men through vital relationships to become godly influences in their world."

B. Promise Keepers crosses denominational and racial lines and encourages all Christian men to reach their full potential by keeping seven promises.

1. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to honoring Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to His Word through the power of the Holy Spirit.***
2. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to pursuing vital relationships with a few other men, understanding that he needs brothers to help him keep his promises.***
3. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to practicing spiritual, moral, ethical and sexual purity.***
4. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to building strong marriages and families through love, protection and biblical values.***
5. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to supporting the mission of the church by honoring and praying for his pastor and by actively giving his time and resources.***
6. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to reaching beyond any racial and denominational barriers to demonstrate the power of biblical unity.***
7. ***A Promise Keeper is committed to influencing his world, being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30–31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20).***

C. The Promise Keepers statement of faith is composed of five affirmations.

1. *We believe that there is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*
2. *We believe that the Bible is God's written revelation to man and that it is verbally inspired, authoritative and without error in the original manuscripts.*
3. *We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, death on the cross to provide for our redemption, bodily resurrection and ascension into heaven, present ministry of intercession for us, and His return to earth in power and glory.*
4. *We believe in the personality and deity of the Holy Spirit, that He performs the miracle of new birth in an unbeliever and indwells believers, enabling them to live a godly life.*
5. *We believe that man was created in the image of God but because of sin, was alienated from God. That alienation can be removed only by accepting through faith alone God's gift of salvation which was made possible by Christ's death.*

D. Promise Keepers has a five point ministry which includes the following:

1. ***Conference Ministry***—In stadiums or coliseums
2. ***Education Ministry***—In the form of leadership seminars
3. ***Field Ministry***—Recruitment and training of lay leadership
4. ***Resources***—Books, audio/video recordings, newsletters and study guides.
5. ***Support for Clergy***—Motivate and encourage laymen to actively support the pastoral ministry and mission of their church

E. Promise Keepers is a "movement", not a church "program."

■ WHO ARE PROMISE KEEPERS?

Promise Keepers are Christian men of all denominations and races. Christian men of all persuasions who accept the seven promises as goals in life are welcome to participate in Promise Keepers activities.

■ WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN?

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help North Carolina Baptist churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- ***enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities***
- ***encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries***
- ***educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities***
- ***teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions***
- ***lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.***

North Carolina Baptist Men supports the basic objectives of Promise Keepers as stated in the seven promises. North Carolina Baptist Men believes that keeping the seven promises will help "men and boys to mature in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians." North Carolina Baptist Men believes that the Promise Keepers movement can compliment and strengthen a local church's Baptist Men's group, but should not substitute for a Baptist Men's group. The primary purpose of Baptist Men is missions and missions is the bottom line.

■ ATTENDING A PROMISE KEEPERS CONFERENCE? WHAT IS A PROMISE KEEPERS CONFERENCE LIKE?

If you attend a Promise Keepers "Stadium Event," you will encounter a worship style which will probably be very different from your local church service. This is due to several factors.

a. This is an interdenominational grouping. Most Promise Keeper conferences have in excess of 50,000 men in attendance. These men are from many different Christian backgrounds and denominations.

b. Some leaders may not be "church organization oriented".

c. The events are called "Stadium Events" which lend themselves to much less structure in style and content than the typical local church worship experience.

d. All meetings are inter-racial.

e. These events usually occupy the better part of two days with the following events:

1. *A strong emphasis upon contemporary Christian music, including leadership by a "praise team" rather than choir; accompaniment by a band rather than piano and/or organ; and the singing of "praise choruses" rather than hymns*
2. *Several directed prayer times*
3. *Several commitment times of various formats with considerable movement and interaction among the participants*
4. *Several general conferences by recognized religious or social leaders, who are outstanding in their fields*
5. *Sermons by well known public speakers*
6. *Very little rest time*

■ WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO PREPARE FOR A PROMISE KEEPERS CONFERENCE?

Here are some things to keep in mind if you are considering taking a group of men from your church to a Promise Keepers conference.

a. ***Pray****—Church Baptist Men leaders and their pastor should meet to discuss and pray about participation in a Promise Keepers conference. Address any concerns here and decide if participation in a Promise Keepers event would strengthen your men and your church. If you agree that it would strengthen your church then,*

b. ***Plan and Promote****—Decide which Promise Keepers conference you would like to attend (contact Baptist Men's office for a Promise Keepers schedule). Develop a plan for promoting the conference and preparing men for the conference. A Baptist Men's breakfast is a good time to explain the purpose of Promise Keepers and to promote the conference. Provide sign-up sheets at the breakfast and in Sunday School classes.*

c. ***Prepare the Men****—Schedule a pre-conference informational meeting with the men who will be attending the Promise Keepers conference. Use this time to explain what a Promise Keepers conference will be like (refer to information in this flyer). Tell the men that it is an interdenominational meeting and that some men may not be comfortable with the worship style at the conference while other men will really like the contemporary music and worship style. Encourage your men to look for the best in the conference and to pray that God will use the conference and the seven promises to speak to them.*

d. ***Participate****—Participate with your men at the conference. By traveling and participating together with your men at the conference you will build deep and lasting friendships.*

■ AFTER THE CONFERENCE, WHAT'S NEXT?

After the conference, schedule a post-conference breakfast and encourage the men to share experiences and testimonies. At its best, a Promise Keepers conference can be a time of renewal and revival. Work to channel that enthusiasm into strengthening your local church and strengthening missions. Encourage your men to get involved in missions and ministry. Baptist Men's office has a series of brochures on how to begin men's ministry groups and mission action groups. Encourage the formation of men's ministry groups (small accountability groups) that meet weekly and mission action groups that are doing hands-on mission projects. Call Baptist Men's office to order a copy of the flyer "Organizing Men for Missions," "Starting a Men's Ministry Group" and other resources for church mission projects.

■ FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WAYS TO INVOLVE YOUR CHURCH IN MISSIONS CONTACT:

North Carolina Baptist Men,
Baptist State Convention of N.C, P.O. Box 1107
Cary, NC 27512–1107, Phone: (800) 395–5102,
Ext. 331, Fax: (919) 460–6329
CompuServe E-Mail Address: 71153,2642

Dennis Crowder, State Family Foundations Coordinator
9705 Stoney Hill Lane, Charlotte, NC 28277
(704) 541–7760

Flood Brings Loss, Love To West Virginia

BY ROSE POST OF THE SALISBURY POST

North Carolina Baptist Men disaster relief volunteers hit the road again, giving hope and food to thousands of West Virginians devastated by the worst flooding in decades.

Hoover Lingle of Granite Quarry is looking and rescuing. That's why he's in Lewisburg, W. Va., with the North Carolina Baptist Men's disaster relief ministry, which has also come with physical and emotional nourishment for the people of southeastern West Virginia who survived the "Blizzard of '96" and the ensuing Great Flood that destroyed everything they had. Lingle's memories are lasting. How can he forget pushing a boat away from a swollen river to avoid a tree limb and losing volunteer Dale Morgan of Asheboro? "The water was so swift I turned the boat around," Lingle says, "and as soon as I left the bank, he flipped over the side. He couldn't swim because the water was so swift. You wouldn't believe the wild look in his eyes. The water was so cold. We wrapped him in thermal aluminum, and he cleaned up and went again."

How can any of them forget the boats they saw wrapped around trees, the mattresses, the bed sheets, the beds?

But inside the NCBM's Disaster Relief Feeding Unit, Hugh Greene of Churchland sees less dramatic sights. Dirty dishes to wash, trash to dump, pots to stir.

Greene is one of about three dozen from the Rowan County area who went to West Virginia to work out of the unit, located at Lewisburg's First Church, 10 miles from the flood area.

On the first day of operations, the group prepared 500 meals for flooding victims; the next day, 2,000; the following day, 2,500; and the next, 6,000. The need is expected to climb to 9,000 meals a day . Some of the volunteers also help Red Cross workers deliver meals to areas 100 miles north and south.

Greene is away from the threat of rapid water. But he'll never forget it either.

"I'll tell you, it's a life changing experience.," he says. "I don't want disasters to happen, but I will go

Tar Heel Baptists prepare a hot meal for victims of the flooding.

I THANK my GOD because of your partnership in the GOSPEL

Phil 1:3-5 NIV

NC Missions Offering

Offering Help and Hope

I Thank My God Every T

"For the first seven years, we were helped by the North Carolina Missions Offering. So we were able to purchase some things, take care of my salary and that has been substantial in helping our church to establish and grow." (The church now has 350 members and recently dedicated their first church building.) "We've been waiting for this for a long time. Finally our dream came true. I give all the glory to God and Jesus Christ."
Daniel Park, Pastor
Korean First Church, Raleigh

The North Carolina Missions Offering offers help and hope to more than 3 million unchurched in our state — and much more. It helps to provide clothing for the naked, friendship for the imprisoned, shelter for the homeless and spiritual and physical food for the hungry in our state. It provides witness and missions ministry training to church members of all ages and it undergirds new church starts across our state. And it helps to support a myriad of ministries done through local Baptist associations.

But it also provides a witness around the world as internationals touched here share the gospel as they return home, as disaster victims pull their lives back together, as it supports our North Carolina-born foreign missionaries in very special ways and as it helps to send North Carolina Baptists to other states and to the uttermost parts of the world to share Christ.

Your North Carolina WMU and Baptist Men receive their entire budgets from this offering. In addition, much of the ministry budget for the Missions Division of the Baptist State Convention also comes from this offering. Almost 10 percent of the North Carolina Missions Offering goes back to

The best part about camp? "Inviting Jesus into my heart."

"A counselor named David came into our room and told us a story about his life and explained how important it was to ask Jesus into your heart and keep Him there. And I started asking Jesus into my heart, and I started doing better, and I didn't call any names or anything. My life changed."
Greg
Camp Angel Tree

Week Of Prayer For N

September 8-15, 1996

TIME I REMEMBER YOU...

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel.

Philippians 1:3-5a

the local association to support ministries in your community. That's partnership at its best. Last year, we were up by nine percent but still missed the goal. Please lead your churches in promoting the North Carolina mission field the way it does the foreign and home mission fields.

A special feature to help with the Week of Prayer for North Carolina Missions is a prayer line installed at the Baptist building in Cary. Call that number, 800-395-5102, ext. 800. From a touch-tone phone, the line may be accessed 24-hours-a-day. Access from a rotary phone will be during office hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m. The prayer requests will be updated weekly unless an urgent need arises.

Baptist State Convention of NC
North Carolina Missions PrayerLine
800-395-5102, ext. 800

"My father-in-law was a pastor, and I have been a Christian most of my life. Most of the time I was a 'pew sitter.' However, my experience in Florida changed my life. While ministering to the victims of Hurricane Andrew I discovered that God could use my gift in the same way that He uses the teachers, the deacons, etc. My gift is the gift of service - I can use my hands and my tools to show and tell others about Jesus' love."
Lyman Fisher
Sylva, NC

Dear Members:
Thanks for the kindness that you all expressed by reaching into your pockets to give the children the best Christmas that they have had in a long time - a visit to their mom at the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women. My prayers and thanks go to you members for living your faith by reaching out to others who are less fortunate. Please continue to help the outcasts in society.
Mary Brown
Miami, Florida

RTH CAROLINA MISSIONS

Goal: $2.02 million

Your Gift Makes A Difference!

- $90 sends a disadvantaged child to GA camp for one week
- $20 provides books to a North Carolina-born foreign missionary each Christmas
- $400 assists a North Carolina Baptist to go on an overseas mission trip
- $2 sends a birthday card to a North Carolina-born foreign missionary
- $1 a day helps the Church Extension Department to provide materials to reach 10 unchurched people
- $11 enables one deaf person to attend an evangelistic Deaf Rally and Banquet at Thanksgiving
- $3.50 provides a hot meal to a disaster victim
- $350 buys a new chainsaw for Disaster Recovery
- $50 supplies two soccer balls for an overseas sports mission team
- $6 provides dental care for a person on the Medical/Dental bus
- $5 puts a Bible in the hands of people helped during disaster relief efforts
- Your gifts provide training, expenses, and materials for 15 consultants to be able to go to any congregation or association free of charge as they need training or assistance to start or continue a leisure ministry

NC Missions Speakers Available

Talk to your pastor about scheduling a Sunday on the church calendar to launch the North Carolina Missions Offering, a time to celebrate North Carolina missions during the week, and then a Sunday to receive the offering. Make sure to stay within the time frames your pastor suggests. A speaker is a wonderful way to help communicate the story of North Carolina Missions during special emphasis times. Speakers are available any time during the year and are a good suggestion for pulpit supply needs. To locate a speaker in your area, contact NC Woman's Missionary Union at 800-395-5102, ext. 237. Speakers do not charge a fee. Churches reimburse speakers for expenses only (usually mileage and meals).

A promotional packet for the North Carolina Missions Offering will be mailed to each church. Materials suggest a launch Sunday for the offering, a North Carolina Missions celebration during the week, and a Sunday to receive the offering. Items include a video, bulletin insert/prayer guide, poster, clip art, short vignettes and celebration suggestions. If your church does not receive a packet by July 20, please contact the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina at 800-395-5102 or 919-467-5100, ext.141.

NC Missions Offering *Offering Help and Hope*
September 8-15, 1996

Baptist State Convention of NC, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512 919-467-5100 / 800-395-5102

A National Guardsman scoops up ruined household belongings piled along a street in a southeastern West Virginia town.

anytime I can."

That happens to every volunteer, says Paul Wilson whose work with the first disaster feeding unit housed at his church-Salisbury's Trading Ford church-uncovered his talent to get things done and propelled him into the right place at the right time when Hurricane Andrew slammed into Florida in 1992.

Today, Wilson is state coordinator of NCBM's disaster relief ministry, one of the nation's top four. Their volunteers can feed 18,000 people a day. The ministry not only feeds but does "mud-out," ripping out carpet and cleaning homes with chemicals that will kill bacteria.

So Wilson knows what disasters do to volunteers. "They see hurt," he says, "They see people dying. And they see people who have lost everything, stunned by forces of nature they don't expect and can't control."

Team member Bill Hinshaw, interim pastor of Salisbury's Stallings Memorial Church, knew that less than four days in West Virginia would change his life forever. "It puts your priorities in place," he says.

Baptist Men volunteers team up with American Red Cross workers to deliver meals.

"There are a lot of things we fight over and argue over and bicker over in our lives and in our organizations and our churches." But after West Virginia, he says, "some of them just don't seem important." But he knew he'd go back and what he'd preach about the following Sunday. "For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you welcomed me." "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when...' and the King will answer, 'Truly, I say to you, as you it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me.'"

Paul Wilson
State Disaster Relief Coordinator
P.O. Box 2763
Salisbury, N.C. 28145
(704) 637-6735

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

Agricultural Missions Opportunities Abound

Reports indicate that the majority of families living in absolute poverty worldwide are rural. It is easy to assume that this reference is to Third World countries. But I have visited families in rural North Carolina who are living in conditions of real, basic need. Our task is to represent the Kingdom of God to these families, bringing "righteousness, peace and joy" into their lives! Often we find that lasting change will only come when attention is directed to environmental stewardship as well. The rural poor overseas, the rural poor in our own rural communities, and environmental stewardship — these are the targets of agricultural missions.

Specific opportunities for agricultural missions service greatly outnumber our volunteers. Yet, we are assured that "the cry of the poor shall not always go unheard" (Psalm 9:18). Prayerfully, consider your role in our Master's "ripened fields," and encourage others to become involved. Contact me to learn more about agricultural missions or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Stephen Hughes
State Ag Missions Coordinator
P.O. Box 65
Burgaw, N.C. 28425
(910) 259-5925

PRAYER SUPPORT

Testimony Highlights Prayer

Communication is very important in relationships. Prayer is our means of communicating with God.

In February 1995, after much humble prayer, I became the N.C. Baptist Men's Prayer Support leader for Region 7. My commitment to prayer in my personal life; burden for the need of prayer in the life of my fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord; and a definite response from God led me to accept this very important position.

I have personal experience and knowledge in the power of prayer. The miracles of God in prayer through faith are all around us. I experience and know the power of prayer every day. As children of God, we will not know until eternity the real joy God gets in those simple intimate conversations with Him.

Dallas Locklear
Region 7 Prayer Support Leader
615 Old Farm Road
Banner Elk, N.C. 28604
(704) 898-4605

Attend Prayer Seminars In June, Oct.

Two prayer retreats are planned for this year for all folks interested in prayer. The first takes place June 7–8 at the Christmount lodge in Black Mountain with speakers James Johnson, senior pastor, West Asheville Church, Asheville; Pat Kilby, pastor, Ninevah Church, Waynesville; Tim Owens, music director, Ninevah Church, Waynesville; and Cathy Ollis, director of World A Resource Center at Gardner-Webb University. Cost for this retreat is $98 per couple or $60 for singles which includes meals, lodging and program fees. The program begins Friday night with supper and ends Saturday afternoon with lunch.

The second retreat takes place October 18–19 at Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro where the main event will be a five-hour seminar by Randy Sprinkle, director of international prayer support at the Foreign Mission Board, SBC in Richmond, Virginia. Cost is $48.75 per person (double occupancy) and $59.25 per person (single occupancy) which includes meals, lodging, program fee and a study book. The program begins Friday night with supper and ends Saturday afternoon with lunch.

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Ed Couch
State Prayer Support Coordinator
3905 Page Road
Morrisville, N.C. 27560
(919) 544-7014

"THE GREAT ADVENTURE"

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF BAPTISTS IN MISSIONS TRIENNIAL MEETING

JUNE 28–29, 1996/RIDGECREST, NORTH CAROLINA

For more information write: NFBM, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38104 or call Brotherhood Commission: (901) 272–2461

Sports In Missions Expanded

With tryouts behind us, teams practicing hard, plans taking shape and most importantly, people praying, the stage is being set for Sports In Missions. This summer the ministry expanded to four activities involving Sports In Missions to reach people, plant seeds and build relationships to share about Jesus.

The soccer team travels to South Africa for two weeks of clinics, games, and work with athletes and fans. Rich Erdman leads this summer's all star team made up of high school Christian athletes from all over North Carolina. Pray for their trip June 10–22.

North Carolina Baptist Men leads the Basketball Clinic on its return to Wilmington. Johnny Childers directs an outstanding staff of coaches and players during this special week of basketball clinics and games to reach young people for Christ in the inner city of Wilmington. Pray for this special week of June 24–28.

The first annual Father-Son Sports Camp takes place at Camp Caraway, Asheboro, June 28–29. Sports In Missions teamed up with Mark Abernathy, N.C. Baptist Men, to provide this great weekend opportunity for fathers and sons to join together for quality time together in a unique setting of sports and inspiration. Contact N.C. Baptist Men at (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102 Ext. 341 or check the appropriate item on the back page for an application or more information.

The North Carolina Baptist Men Basketball team travels to St. Lucia in the West Indies on July 20–28 to conduct clinics, play games, build relationships and assist the local missionaries and churches by using basketball. Basketball is one of the most popular sports to reach people with the challenge and adventure of following Christ. Gary Bowne leads this summer's team.

Keep our Sports In Missions teams in your prayers these next two months as they practice, travel, and spread the gospel through their mission activities.

Gary Bowne
State Sports In Missions Coordinator
237 32nd Avenue, NW
Hickory, N.C. 28601
(704) 327–6282

Father/Son Sports Camp Begins

June 28–29 will be the date for a Father/Son sports camp at Camp Caraway, Asheboro. This special sports camp for boys, grades 4–8 and their father, grandfather, or other adult male over 21 offers opportunities to learn and grow together around a sports theme. A one-to-one adult/boy ratio is required since father and son will participate together in sports and recreation clinics. (Exceptions will be made for fathers who have more than one son in an age group.) The overnight begins with check-in at 4:00p.m. on Friday and ends at 3:00p.m. on Saturday. Boys will be divided into beginner and advanced classes and may choose from baseball, basketball, soccer, and ropes course clinics. Cost for the overnight is $25 per person which includes meals, lodging, and program. Registration is limited, so apply early. For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Fathers and sons enjoyed the three-legged race and other activities during the Father-Son Retreat.

Homeland Missions Changes People

Written words cannot explain what happens in the heart of a man or woman who follows God's call to go and spend some of his/her time working on a mission project. It really does not matter whether the mission project is across the county, the state, the nation, or across the ocean, a man or woman who goes in God's name can never return home the same. Only those who have followed this call can fully understand.

There are so many opportunities to serve God through service to others. This issue will only list a few of the opportunities Baptist Men are involved in as Homeland Mission projects. Those of us who have made time to go can offer encouragement to others to join us in this most rewarding ministry. As we go in faith, with prayer, God shows us Himself in many wonderful ways.

We realize that God does not call every person to every ministry, however; we encourage all Christians to become involved in at least one ministry. If you have not been a part of a Homeland Mission project, let me strongly encourage you to move out and become involved.

First Korean Church, Raleigh

The dedication service originally scheduled for February 4, 1996, was rescheduled for March 17, 1996. Many attended the occasion and participated in the well done program. The music program blessed those present and the speakers each brought a very meaningful message. After the service, everyone received a gift and enjoyed a bountiful meal in the fellowship hall.

New Beginning Church, King

The dedication service was rescheduled for March 3, 1996, because of the icy weather. Approximately 100 people attended the service. R.G. Puckett, editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, was the featured speaker. Brother Puckett wrote very kind and appropriate articles in the March 16, 1996 issue of the *Recorder* about this event. One highlight of the dedication service was when the children of the church presented 51,338 pennies they collected to go toward the cost of the church.

Sims Church, Sims

This church has now been completed and the congregation held Easter Sunday services in the new building. A dedication service is being planned for June 1996.

Pittsboro Church, Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro

A 5,450 square foot brick/frame building now has rough-in completed. Help is needed with sheetrock hanging and finishing and especially brickwork.

Please contact Bill Poindexter, (919) 542–3819. Come and help us finish this project. The Hispanic group has worked hard on this project but still needs your help.

Main Street Church, China Grove

This is an 11,000 square foot multi-purpose building. The metal building is in place and the brick work completed. This project needs help with hanging and finishing drywall, finish carpentry, plumbing, wiring and HVAC.

Please call Pastor Larry Beavers at (704) 857–0871 (home) or (704) 855–3274 (church) to schedule your group.

Friendship Church, Greensboro

This is a three thousand square foot building. Work began in April 1996. This project needs help with framing, roofing, and electrical and plumbing rough-in.

We hope to finish this project this year. Please call Barry Neely at Piedmont Association, (910) 275–7651 to schedule your group.

The Voice of Hope Hispanic Church, Charlotte

During June, the footings, foundation, and slab will be poured. Hearts and Hammers of Independence Hill Church, Charlotte, will work from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. daily to construct this 5060 sq. ft. church building. To help with this project, call Alton Stewart at (704) 875–1251. This is a wonderful opportunity for people in the Charlotte area.

Community Missionary Church, Havelock

The construction of the building is completed. The project now needs brickwork and the parking lot paved. To help with this project, contact Keith Hamilton, Atlantic Association, (919) 447-4593. Keith is very excited about how God is using volunteers to build this house of worship. Let's continue to give him the help he needs.

Camp Mundo Vista, Asheboro

Winterizing summer cottages continues to be a project sponsored by N.C. WMU and NCBM. The work will continue this fall. Make plans now for the men of your church to help with renovations this fall. The goal is to complete this project this fall and winter. To help meet this goal, call Bob Navey (910) 629–4213 to schedule a group this fall. It is not too early to make plans now!

Opportunities To Serve Through Hope Builders Exist

There are many churches with skilled men and women who want to do something in the way of missions. These people are seeking to serve. There are many people in our communities who are in desperate need of someone's help. A roof needs to be shingled; a floor needs repair; a porch has fallen down. These people are seeking hope. How do we bring these people together? — through "Hope Builders."

North Carolina Baptist Men is currently working with Kings Mountain, Union, and Cabarrus Associations in a ministry called "Hope Builders." The goal is to pair North Carolina Baptist churches with low-income homeowners who need help with home renovation and/or repair. These people have "fallen between the cracks." Many of them are the elderly poor. Social service workers lament that, in many of these cases, no government funding of any kind is available to aid these people.

"Partner churches" will take on a project and provide both materials and labor to renovate the homes of "partner families." These "partner churches" may come from anywhere across the state. "Host churches" are congregations in the immediate area who will assist the "partner churches" with various physical needs (lodging and meal arrangements, locating materials, etc.). "Host churches" will hopefully also develop a relationship and on-going ministry to the "partner family" once the project is completed.

Projects are quite diverse, taking anywhere from one to five days. Target dates for these projects are sometime in the spring, summer, or fall of 1996. "Partner churches" can work out a date which best fits their schedule. The following is a list of current projects:

PROJECT 1

Kings Mountain Association , Shelby (Cleveland County)

A 67-year-old woman lives alone in a trailer that is old and needs several repairs. She is on a very limited income and has several health problems. She owns the trailer.

Leaks in the trailer caused water damage to the ceiling and floors in spots. Some windows need to be replaced, as does the front door. Roof needs to be cool-sealed. Floor needs to be patched in bathroom and bedroom. Ceiling tiles need to be replaced in spots.

Estimates for the project are: 4-5 workers; 1–2 days; $400–$450.

Project 2

Kings Mountain Association , Shelby (Cleveland County)

A 60-year-old man lives alone on a limited income in a trailer that he owns.

The roof of the trailer is in bad shape and needs to have an application of cool-seal. Concrete blocks at front and back doors of trailer need to be replaced with pre-cast steps and rails.

Estimates for the project are: 3-4 workers; 1–2 days; $200–$250.

PROJECT 3

Union Association, Monroe (Union County)

A frail 89-year-old lady lives with her disabled daughter. Bedridden, she wants to remain in her home with her daughter.

Termites and sagging caused the home to deteriorate. Immediate needs include repairing the floor around the toilet, planing the front door and replacing facial board around the porch. (This project could be enlarged to include painting the house if desired.)

Estimates for the project are: 4–5 workers; 1–2 days; $250–$300.

PROJECT 4

Project Taken—Old Town Baptist, Winston Salem

A frail, elderly 88-year-old woman lives alone.

The house needs a multitude of repairs. It needs a new roof which will include taking old roof off, possibly replacing some sheeting, and putting new shingles on. Chimney needs repair. House needs cosmetics done to the outside, such as trimming of bushes, etc. (This is a "do what you feel you can" project. Any work on the house would be appreciated and very needed.)

Estimates for the project are: 8–10 workers; 2–3 days; $2000 (for entire roof)

PROJECT 5

Several residents need handicap ramps built.

Estimated costs are: 3–4 workers; 1–2 days; $400 per ramp.

Bill Poindixter
State Homeland Projects Coordinator
P.O. Box 555
Pittsboro, N.C 27312
(919) 542-3819

URGENT REQUEST—CONSTRUCTION MANAGER NEEDED

East Seventh Baptist Church/Graffiti in New York City needs a construction site manager to help in the renovation of their new building. Requirements include a strong familiarity with the construction business (reading/understanding plans, ability to discern/receive bids, etc.), coordinate and supervise work teams, a flexible spirit and love the Lord. The time commitment and housing are negotiable.
Call Lisa Chilson at NCBM, (800) 395–5102 Ext. 333 for more information.

Medicines In Ukraine Continue To Be A Need

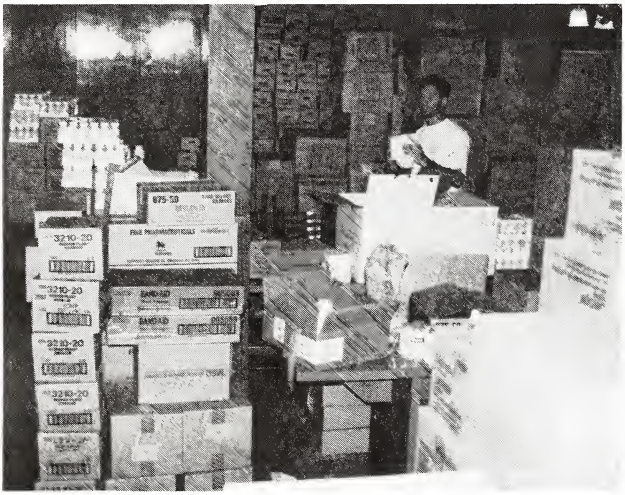
The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with the North Carolina Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship of N.C. Baptist Men, entered into a formal agreement with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to supply medications to the country and people of Ukraine.

An agreement has been worked out with the Missionary Assistance Program (MAP) which has 40 years of experience in sending medications to mission hospitals around the world. We will be able to purchase medications at close to a 50 to 1 purchase advantage, that is, for every dollar we will be given 50 dollars of wholesale medications. Further, MAP packages these and will ship these medicines free from their MAP headquarters in Georgia to Kiev, Ukraine.

We encourage your churches to immediately begin a fundraising drive to raise money whether it be $100, $500, $1000, or whatever amount. Contributions are needed because currently Ukraine can manufacture no medications in the country and, secondly, they are unable to purchase medications with their own currency. As soon as you have money for this endeavor, please send it to N.C. Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512-1107.

To date, two million dollars worth of medicines have already been shipped. We are excited for you to participate in this endeavor as we supply assistance to the people of Ukraine!

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.



Dr. Kevin Almond, Chapel Hill unloads thousands of dollars worth of medicines in Ukraine.

Medical Teams Respond

The North Carolina Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship is assisting the Baptist Union of Ukraine by sending medical doctors, dentists, and nurses to Ukraine. Medical teams responded in 1995 and again this year in a fantastic way!

There are eight teams of medical doctors, dentists, nurses, and other health care professionals scheduled for 1996. To receive an application and/or further details about other medical teams needed, contact Ed Kanoy at (800) 395–5102 Ext. 334 or (919) 489–9519 (home.)

India and China medical teams for 1996 are filled to capacity.

Help Update Medical/Dental Mailing List

Are there health care professionals you know who would like to receive information about opportunities to become involved in medical missions? If so, please send their name and address to Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship (BMDF), P.O. Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512. We will add their name to the mailing list and send them a BMDF brochure. For more information on the BMDF, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Ron Halbrooks
State Medical Missions Coordinator
5419 Highland Drive
Durham, N.C. 27712
(919) 383–5757

MEDICAL/DENTAL BUS AVAILABLE

If you are interested in scheduling the Medical/Dental bus for use in your association, please contact Frank Starnes, (800) 395–5102 Ext. 327 or check the appropriate item on the back page.

North Carolina-Southern Africa Partnership Launched

In January 1996, North Carolina entered into a five-year partnership with South Africa/Swaziland/Lesotho. The purpose of this partnership is to proclaim the gospel to all people in South Africa/Swaziland/Lesotho, to accelerate the planting and development of churches, and to meet human need where possible through agreed upon strategies and projects.

As of May 1996, 43 North Carolina associations committed to participate in this partnership. North Carolina associations are paired with areas/associations in South Africa/Swaziland/Lesotho. In February and March a total of 65 North Carolina associational leaders traveled to southern Africa to meet with leaders from areas/associations with whom they are partnered.

If you are interested in going to southern Africa, please contact your association office. If your association is not participating in this partnership, please contact the Office of Partnership Missions at (800) 395–5102 Ext.171 or check the appropriate item on the back page for information about how you can be a part of this mission partnership.

Bob and Martha Mizelle lead the first South Africa Team.

Bob Mizelle
State Overseas Missions Coordinator
1626 US 13 North
Windsor, N.C. 27983
(919) 794–3759

Prague Update

We began the year with a full plate of work to do in Prague. All of our weeks are assigned and most of the teams recruited. If you are interested in working on the International Baptist Theological Seminary project in Prague, give Sandy Smith a call at (800) 395–5102, Ext. 322. Landscaping the grounds is scheduled for this spring and summer. The campus is beginning to become the finished jewel that many envisioned.

A trip for volunteers to attend the dedication of the seminary is planned for April 18–20, 1997. Details will be mailed to all volunteers.

Called To Be Faithful In The Small Things

By Shirley Hall, Burlington, N.C., Prague Volunteer

While I was in Prague, two ideas kept running around in my head. One came from a familiar story—Paul's call on the road to Damascus. I've always been fascinated by biblical characters who are never named. Have you ever thought about Paul's un-named traveling companions? Who were they?

The other idea was more like a whispered message— "Be faithful in small things." While we often focus on Paul's call, I believe his anonymous companions were also called—called to what at first seemed to be a modest role, called to take a blind man by the hand and lead him down the road. We don't know their names or even how many there were. We don't know anything about them...except their faithfulness in that one thing has had immeasurable consequences. What if they'd run away! I see my role in Prague as one called to be faithful in a "small thing" (painting and varnishing, to be exact!) so that someone else can act upon the call of God.

Just as Paul and his friends were redirected, so was I. I'd signed up to go to Prague to help move the library. In my younger days, I'd moved six. But when I got there, the books hadn't been moved, that is. So I was assigned to paint and varnish—a job requiring skill but not too much thought. As I worked, I had plenty of time to think about the Acts story and all the fellow

travelers whose names I do not and will never know. These thoughts led to prayer. My prayers went something like this: "Father, today I'm praying for people whose names I do not know. Keep me faithful in the small things for their sake."

As I varnished windows, I'd pray, "Lord, I'm thankful for those who have looked out other windows in other times and other places to see visions and dream dreams for this seminary; may they continue to look upward. For those students and families who will come here, strengthen the vision they have to bring the world to You. May the Light of the World shine through them."

Looking out the windows of Building C, I could see both demolition and construction. And so I prayed, "Thank you, Lord, for those un-named people who have been about the business of tearing down and building up. They've torn down walls/barriers/obstacles so that this seminary could become a reality; I thank you for their labors. Lord, let me rip out those things in my life that keep me, and others, from You. And in this world where sometimes everything dear seems to be crumbling away, I'm also grateful for those faithful ones who work to build these buildings—and Your kingdom. As they hammer and saw, dig and carry, plaster and mend, study and teach, work and pray, may Christ be built up."

As I painted heating pipes, I prayed, "Lord, I don't know who will be here in these rooms during the cold winter months, but I ask You to always keep them sheltered in Your care. I thank You for the faithful ones who provide for material and physical needs. Many give the widow's mite in obscurity; bless them with Your bounty. And, Father, when the winter days of the soul come to those who are here, warm them with the strength and power of Your love. Rekindle within them a burning zeal for You and Your Word. Set them, and me, on fire."

As I varnished doors I'd pray, "Lord I thank You for the doors of opportunity You have opened for me—the opportunity to see in person how far Your kingdom reaches, the opportunity to come to know and be blessed by Your faithful servants from other places. I thank You for the Welsh church that helped provide a converted ambulance to a church of Hungarians living in Romania so that they could come work at a Baptist seminary in the Czech Republic. (And Lord, parenthetically, I appreciate your sense of humor!) In my ignorance and in my arrogance, I needed to be reminded that You have, and will always have, a people who are faithful."

1996 Ukraine Dates

June 15–20; June 22–July 6; July 6–20; July 20–August 3; August 3–17; August 10–24; August 17–31; August 31–September 14; September 7–21; September 14–28; September 21–October 5; September 28–October 12; October 5–19; October 12–26; October 19–November 2; October 26–November 9; November 9–23.

To request a 'Ukraine Volunteer in Missions' application form, call Lisa Chilson, N.C. Baptist Men, (800) 395–5102 or (919) 467–5100, Ext. 333, or check the appropriate item on the back page.

LAY RENEWAL

Experiencing God Weekend Offers Meaningful Encounter

Many churches are choosing to include an Experiencing God Weekend as an important part of the Lay Renewal journey. An Experiencing God Weekend exposes the church to the seven realities of how God works through His people to accomplish His purposes. Church members examine their lives and seek the Lord's leadership in making the necessary adjustments to join God where He is working.

The purpose of the Experiencing God Weekend is twofold. A meaningful encounter with God for each participant is one major purpose. The other purpose is to preview the study "Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God" to stimulate interest to participate in the church-wide 13-week study. The goal of the Experiencing God Weekend is to make the seven realities personal to each participant. To receive an application and information on scheduling an Experiencing God Weekend in your church, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Cameron Norris
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
3471 Bassett Street, SW
Shallotte, N.C. 28459
(910) 754-4839

Plan To Attend Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee

Camp Caraway Family Campground, Asheboro will be the site for the third annual Lad/Crusader Camporee. This year's event takes place September 20–21. All boys in grades 1–6, whether an RA or not, are encouraged to attend. Check-in and camp set-up will be between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Friday night. Friday night's highlight is a bonfire program, which includes singing and story telling. Saturday, boys participate in Campcraft instruction classes and fun field day events for ribbons. The Camporee ends around 4:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

The Camporee provides an opportunity for boys to camp, work on Campcraft skills and advancement, and participate in fun activities with other boys from across the state.

Cost is only $3.50 per person and includes campground fee, and program fee. Each group must bring their own food and camping equipment. Registration for this event is limited and must be in by September 15.

For more information or registration, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Spaces Still Available For 1996 RA Camp

There is still time to sign your boys up for a week at Camp Caraway, the State Royal Ambassador camp near Asheboro. Sponsored by Baptist Men, Camp Caraway is entering its 34th year of offering boys from across the state a spiritually challenging, fun-filled week of summer activity. Boys do not have to be an active member of Royal Ambassadors to attend. The well-rounded program includes such activities as archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking, camping, ropes course, basketball, volleyball, and more. Boys also enjoy interesting and challenging daily sessions with the camp pastor and camp missionary. Each boy is placed in a cabin with other boys his age under the care of a well-qualified, well-trained Christian young man who serves as his counselor for the week.

Each camp session begins on Monday at 10:00 a.m. and concludes on Friday at 12:30 p.m. (This schedule coincides with that of Camp Mundo Vista for churches that may wish to bring both boys and girls to the two respective camps in the same trip.) Cost of the camp is $90 per person. Camp dates for Caraway this year are as follows:

June 17–21
June 24–28
July 1–3; 3–5 (father/son mini-camps)
July 8–12
July 15–19
July 29–August 2
August 5–7 (father/son mini-camp)

Camp is a great place for boys to spend a week of their summer. They receive the opportunity to grow spiritually, make new friends, and have a ball! If your boys have never been to Camp Caraway, why not make this their first year. They'll thank you for it!

For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

. . . Also For 1996 Christian High Adventure

The 19th year of Christian High Adventure (CHA) is underway this summer at Camp Caraway. CHA offers an exciting and challenging Christian experience in backpacking the rugged and scenic Appalachian Mountains. Backpacking skills such as trail procedures, clothing and equipment selection, trip planning, cooking, first aid, campsite selection, map and compass reading, and more are taught by a trained and dedicated staff. One day of the week is spent rock climbing and rappelling. A strong emphasis is put on conservation and being a good steward of God's creation.

There are still spaces available in three of the nine weeks. These weeks are for young men aged 14 1/2 and up. Adult males are welcome to accompany the boys on a trip, but this is not mandatory. The weeks with spaces available are: June 9–14; June 16–21; and August 4–9. The cost for a CHA trip is $105 per person, which includes food and all equipment except boots and clothing.

For an application or more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

RA Leader Training Makes A Difference

The key to a successful Royal Ambassador program lies in the ability to secure dedicated adults to work with the boys. Each year hundreds of new RA and Challenger leaders take on the task of leading the boys and young men of their church in missions education and involvement. Unfortunately, many of these leaders become frustrated and drop out before the year is out. Others, however, seem to thrive, leading their boys in interesting and worthwhile meetings. What's the difference? The answer is training. It doesn't take much to learn what resources are out there and how to use them effectively. And a little bit of training can make a world of difference.

October 11–12 are the dates for a special training session for Lad/Crusader Counselors at Camp Caraway, Asheboro. Participants need to bring a sleeping bag and/or bedding with them, as well as other personal items. Men and women working with RAs are encouraged to attend. The training begins with supper on Friday and concludes with lunch on Saturday. Cost for this training is $25 per person.

This training focuses mainly on those who are new RA counselors. Basics of the program will be covered in detail, including advancement, effective chapter meetings, mission projects, and interest activities. The EZRA (Easy Royal Ambassadors) method, a simplified approach to providing an RA program for your church, will also be a focus. Participants gain a knowledge of the program and how to lead it effectively.

For more information or registration, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Father/Son Camps Build Relationships

There's little denying that the bond between a father and son is a special thing. Boys need to have quality time just having fun with their fathers. Each year, North Carolina Baptist Men provides an opportunity for such bonding at Camp Caraway, Asheboro. Registration is currently underway for three Father/Son Mini Camps this summer. The first mini-camp will be **July 1–3**, with the second camp running **July 3–5**. Because of the popularity of the mini-camps, a third camp has been slated for **August 5–7**. During these mini-camps, boys in grades 1–3 and their fathers can enjoy a fun-filled time of swimming, basketball, archery, canoeing, Bible study, and much more. Boys must be in grades 1–3 to attend. Boys may attend camp with a father, grandfather, uncle, or any other adult male over the age of 21. There must be one adult per every three boys who attend. Cost of the mini-camp is $42 per person and includes meals, lodging, and program. Space for these camp sessions is limited, so plan now to sign up for an exciting, meaningful experience. For more information, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

REMINDER:

Royal Ambassador and Challenger Leaders:

Please submit your Honor Chapter/Unit Applications no later than September 3, 1996.

New RA T-shirts Have Arrived!

The new North Carolina Royal Ambassador T-shirts are now available. This attractive light blue shirt features the Royal Ambassador logo in a colorful design. The Royal Ambassador motto and "North Carolina" are also prominently displayed. Cost for this shirt is $6, plus an additional $2 charge per order for shipping.

The RA shirt is available in Small; Adult Medium; Adult Large; and Adult Extra Large sizes.

To order, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Fall Challengers Events Coming

Challengers Leadership Lab, a training event for Challengers and their leaders to teach development of leadership abilities, will be held **October 12–13, 1996** at Camp Caraway.

Tripp'in Out, a training event for youth, Challengers, Acteens, and their leaders to teach them how to plan, prepare, and conduct a mission trip, will be held at Ridgecrest on **December 6–8.**

Further details will be forthcoming in the next issue of Men on Missions.

Bob Foy Honored For Royal Ambassador Leadership

Bob Foy of Peninsula Church, Mooresville was recently honored at the North Carolina Baptist Men's Convention on May 18 with the Distinguished Royal Ambassador Leadership Award. Each year the State Royal Ambassador committee selects and recognizes one individual for his or her long-term, meritorious service to Royal Ambassador work in North Carolina. Bob has been in RA work for 22 years, serving as director of RA activities in his church, as well as local association. Bob also served on the State RA committee and has been active as a state training specialist , as well as in helping conduct state RA congresses and other events. He has given much time and energy to encourage other RA leaders and start new RA chapters. His willingness to serve wherever needed is an example of making missions part of a daily lifestyle. North Carolina Baptist Men and the state RA committee are honored to present Bob Foy with this award. Keep up the good work, Bob!

If you would like to nominate someone for this important award, obtain a nomination form by contacting North Carolina Baptist Men at (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102 Ext. 325. All nominations must be received by November 30, 1996.

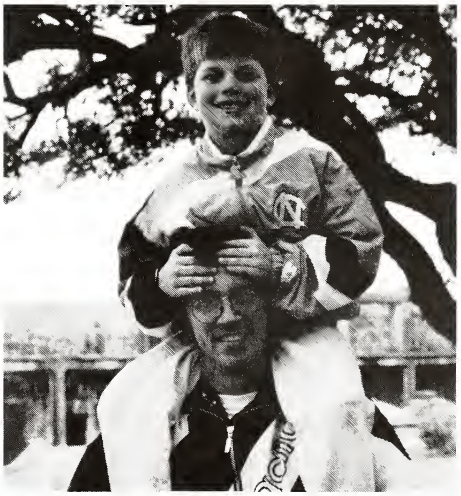
Winners of Race for Missions at Greenwood Forest Church, Cary. (Left to right: Brandon White, Zach Tysinger, Bryan Turner, and Steven Jones.) Greenwood Forest RA's raised $555 for Albania mission projects and $625 for mission needs in Prague.

Father/Son Retreat Held March 29–30 At Caswell; More Treasure Island Retreats Planned For Fall

More than 150 fathers and sons from all parts of the state found treasure at Treasure Island, a father-son retreat held March 29–30 at the N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell).

Co-sponsored by the Assembly and N.C. Baptist Men, fathers and sons took part in activities that helped them grow closer together as well as mature individually. Norman Jameson, director of communications for Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, led the fathers and sons in sessions that helped them learn how to treasure their relationships to God, family, and friends. The dads and sons also had fun listening to pirate tales around a beach bonfire, running relay races, playing indoor crab soccer, and going on a campus-wide treasure hunt.

Two more Treasure Island retreats are scheduled for this fall. A retreat for ***fathers and daughters*** will be held **September 27–28**; a second ***father-son*** retreat will be held **November 1–2**. Cost for each retreat is $25 per person. For more information, call the Assembly at (910) 278–9501 or check the appropriate item on the back page.



CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Summer 1996, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

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- ❑ ETC Is A Valuable Training Opportunity (p. 5)
- ❑ Church Brotherhood Leadership Conf. (p. 5)
- ❑ Deacon/Spouse Leadership Conference (p. 6)
- ❑ Aviation Ministry Takes Off (p. 9)
- ❑ Promise Keepers Conference Set (p. 9)
- ❑ Agriculture Missions Opportunities Abound (p. 14)
- ❑ Attend Prayer Seminars (p. 14)
- ❑ Father/Son Sports Camp Begins (p. 15)
- ❑ Need for Medicines In Ukraine (p. 18)
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  #_____ of applications needed.
- ❑ RA Leader Training Makes A Difference (p. 22)
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- ❑ Father/Son Retreat At N.C. Baptist Assembly (p. 23)

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCES

- ❑ Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference, Aug. 9–10, Caraway. Cost: $35/person (double occupancy and three meals); *Registration deadline is July 8.*
  #_____ persons attending @ $35 = Total $_____
- ❑ RA Leader Training Makes A Difference, Oct. 11–12, Camp Caraway. Cost $25.
  #_____ persons attending @ $25 = Total $_____

1996 RA T-shirts @ $6 (p. 22) — Color: Light Blue

❑ Adult small	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult medium	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
❑ Adult X-large	*Quantity*____ = Total	$____
	+ Shipping/handling	*$ 2.00*
	Grand Total	$____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone: Office_____ Home_____

Church_____ Association_____

Leadership Position_____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $_____ Number in group (if applicable) _____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

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